

Public Law 96-521  
96th Congress

## An Act

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue certain patents under the Color of Title Act.

Dec. 12, 1980  
[H.R. 6211]*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. That, in the administration of the Color of Title Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1068) and the Act of February 23, 1932 (43 U.S.C. 178), the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to issue a patent under such Acts to any applicant for a patent covering lands within the Rio Grande Occupancy Resolution Program Area, New Mexico (hereinafter in this Act referred to as "the area"), if (1) such applicant is otherwise qualified to receive such patent but for the fact that the land covered by the application for such patent involves an adverse claim or claims arising out of, or in connection with, a withdrawal order; and (2) the Secretary has determined, with the concurrence of the agency for which the withdrawal was made, that the continuation of the withdrawal is no longer needed, and that termination of the withdrawal will not adversely affect any Federal program as projected.

Rio Grande  
Occupancy  
Resolution  
Program Area,  
N. Mex.  
Patent issuance.

SEC. 2. No interest in any Federal land or water resource values are intended to be affected by this Act other than by express terms in the patents authorized to be issued pursuant to section 1 hereof.

SEC. 3. This Act does not apply to Indian lands or lands withdrawn for Indian use unless the applicant is a beneficiary of such Indian withdrawal.

SEC. 4. No later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, each agency for whom a withdrawal of lands within the area was made shall advise the Secretary as to whether the continuation of each such withdrawal is needed and as to whether termination of any such withdrawal would adversely affect any Federal program as projected. Upon receipt of such advice from such agencies, but in no event later than two years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall decide whether or not to make the determination described in section 1 of this Act.

Approved December 12, 1980.

## LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 126 (1980):

Dec. 1, considered and passed House and Senate.